

Descriptions of New Scydmaenidæ and Pselaphidæ.

By E. BRENDÉL.

SCYDMÆNIDÆ.

Brachycepsis n. g. Head twice as wide as long, eyes large, prominent, palpi with the second joint obconical, the last a shorter conical subula, posterior coxæ approximate.

B. fuchsii n. sp. Bright brown, sparsely and coarsely pubescent. Length, 0.8 mm.

Head transverse, vertex half as long as the entire width of the head, base and frontal margin equally wide, parallel, genæ and lateral margin anterior to the eye equal in length and scarcely shorter than the eye, occiput convex, vertex from a line through the middle of the eyes to the frontal margin gradually depressed on either side leaving a slight longitudinal elevation in the middle and deepest near the supra-antennal tubercles in the form of a punctiform foveola; antennal cavities very large, separated by a clypeal septum, clypeus and labrum very short, transverse. Antennæ half as long as the beetle, joints 1—4 oblong, uniform, decreasing in size, 5—7 oval, decreasing in length, 8—10 transverse oval, gradually increasing, 11th as wide as 10th, ovoidal. Prothorax, impunctate, as wide as long, wider than the head, sides anteriorly arcuate, posteriorly sinuate, narrowest in a line through the lateral foveæ, which are situated in an ample longitudinal impression one-sixth of the length from the base, in the same distance in the middle is an obsolete transverse impression. Elytra very convex, not truncate at their apex, though the last segment is partly visible; base narrowly elevated, each elytron bifoveate, the suture near the base elevated. Abdomen with six ventrals, coxæ approximate, thighs slender, the posterior ones more so.

Santa Cruz, California. Charles Fuchs.

Motschulsky's *Scydmaenus californicus* may belong to this, but it is reported as being $\frac{7}{8}$ of a Parisian line long, while this is 1 mm. shorter. According to the testimony of Dr. D. Sharp an unknown genus. I take pleasure in naming this insect in honor of its discoverer, my friend Carl Fuchs.

Scydmaenus (?) minimus n. sp. Brown, slender, punctate, pubescent. Length, 0.45 mm.

Head widest in a line through the eyes, where it is one-third wider than the length from the base to the frontal margin, eyes large, not very convex nor prominent, equally distant from the base and the frontal tubercles, frontal margin nearly as wide as the neck, vertex broadly convex, antennal cavities large, leaving a narrow frontal septum between them, clypeus transverse triangular. Palpi with the third joint obconical, thick, the last a thick subula. Antennæ as long as the head and half of the prothorax conjoined, semigeniculate between the first and second joints which are nearly equal in size, the first oblong, the second globular, 3—7 globular, half as thick as the second, gradually increasing in width, 8 as wide as the second, 9 and 10 as long as the second and respectively two and three times as wide, truncate at the tip, the last joint as wide as the 10th, ovoid, truncate at the base. Prothorax as wide as long, sides evenly arcuate, base one-half wider than the neck, basal angles nearly rectangular, disk convex, minutely foveate near the basal angles and obsoletely trans-

versely impressed near the middle of the base. Elytra two and one-half times longer and one-third wider than the prothorax, shoulders an obsolete longitudinal ridge, base of each elytron semi-circularly depressed. Legs short, all the coxæ approximate, the anterior ones contiguous, metasternum carinate.

Linn County, Iowa. 3 specimens sifted out of decayed wood. I am very much in doubt, whether this species can be retained in the genus *Scydmaenus*.

Cephennium anophthalmicum n. sp. Amber-yellow, elongate, convex, impunctate, pubescence long, sparse, regular. Length, 0.9 mm.

Head pendant, as wide as long, vertex smooth convex, twice as wide as the distance from the base to the interantennal line; antennal tubercles flat triangular, clypeus quadrate; eyes wanting. Palpus with the first joint very narrow, cylindrical, three times as long as wide, the second not wider, globular, the third and fourth together thick, obconical, rounded at the tip. Antennæ as long as the prothorax, joint 1 and 2 oblong, obconical, nearly half as wide as long, 3 smaller, little longer than wide, 4—10 globular, 4—6 equal as wide as third, 7 somewhat larger, 8 smallest, 9 and 10 as thick as the second, the last joint slightly thicker, as long as 9 and 10 together, oblong oval. Prothorax nearly as long as wide, sides evenly arcuate, near the base slightly sinuate, basal angles rectangular, explanate, discus equally convex. Elytra a little more than twice as long and slightly wider in the middle than the prothorax, disc convex, lines wanting, suture near the base elevated with a large, pubescent fovea at the base in the middle of each elytron, scutel triangular, four times as wide as its length, shoulders obsolete. Anterior coxæ contiguous, prosternum broad, flat; mesosternum carinate, narrow, truncate posteriorly; middle coxæ small, separated by the mesosternal carina; metasternum very broad; posterior coxæ distant. Tarsi half as long as the tibiæ, the joints subequal, tibiæ strongly clavate, thickest in the distal third.

Alameda County, California. Sifted from vegetable debris together with a large number of *Pinodytes cryptophagoides* by Mrs. Marie Fuchs. One specimen.

PSELAPHIDÆ.

Pselaptrichus n. g. Antennal insertions approximate, front prolonged, narrow, sulcate. Maxillary palpus very long, the second joint sigmoid-clavate and coarsely tuberculate, the third small quadrate, the fourth broadly securiform, as long as the second with short erect pubescence.

P. tuberculipalpus n. sp. Yellowish brown, pubescence in regular rows, form slender, slightly convex. Length, 1.66 mm.

Head flat above, longer than wide, widest between the eyes, which are small and situated at the angles of a pentagon forming the discus of the vertex posterior to the oblong frontal prolongation; the latter nearly quadrate, arcuate in front, sulcate in the middle, the lateral half with the surface plane and inclined toward the sulcus; just before the eye-line are two small foveæ, mutually twice as distant as either from the eye and connected by a straight angular shallow sulcus with the frontal fissure: occiput slightly elevated with a fine carina in the middle, labrum small transverse, clypeus anteriorly trisinate; antennal cavities large, from the middle of the eyes to the middle of the posterior limit of the antennal cavities a fine carina, and between those cavities a narrow frontal septum. Antennæ as long as the head and prothorax

conjoined, joint I cono-cylindrical, half as long as the head, 2 oval, as wide as the first, 3—7 less than half as wide as wide as the preceding joints, globular, 8 wider, not longer, 9 transversely oval, 10 twice as wide as long, 11 oval, twice as wide as the second joint and one-half longer with long pubescence. Prothorax as long as wide and one-half wider than the head, widest behind the anterior third, where the sides are acutely rounded and toward the neck and the base nearly straight; disk moderately convex, near the base with an angulated transverse sulcus, ending on the sides in an ample impression, containing a small fovea. Elytra across the shoulders as wide as the prothorax, widest behind the middle, where it is one-half wider and along the suture one-third longer than the shoulderwidth; disk rather depressed near the base, sutural lines slightly impressed, basal foveæ small, the sutural ones near a transverse elevation of the base, the discal ones in the anterior part of a shallow, oblong depression, below the humeral ridge a fovea connected by an oblique line with the lateral margin. Abdomen as wide as the elytra, slightly convex without the basal impressions, segments subequal, border narrow. The pubescence of the elytra and the dorsal segment arranged in regular rows. Anterior coxæ contiguous, posterior ones distant, trochanters short triangular, legs slender, anterior femora crenate below tarsi with one claw, second joint twice as long as the third, metasternum not impressed. ♂ anterior tibiæ arcuate with a deep notch inside of the distal fourth of its length, clypeus with a medial ridge. ♀ tibiæ and clypeus simple.

Alameda County, California, discovered by Mrs. Marie Fuchs.

This singular insect unites some of the characters of *Bythinus* (*Machærodes*) *carinatus* and *Pselaphus longipalpus*, the antennæ and the palpi belonging to the European *Machærites* group of the *Bythini*, the form of the head approaching that of *Pselaphus*. According to the testimony of Dr. David Sharp, there is no genus known, with which it can be united.

Euplectus planipennis, n. sp. Piceous brown, abdomen and prothorax paler, much depressed, densely pubescent with fine appressed hair. Length, 1.25 mm.

Head triangular, anteriorly truncate, posterior angles strongly arcuate, eyes very prominent, as long as the genæ, base entire, across the posterior angles twice as wide as the straight frontal margin; frontal tubercles small, space between them and behind the frontal margin deeply concave, occipital foveæ large and connected with the frontal excavation by a very short sulcus, leaving in the middle of the vertex a short acute triangular elevation posteriorly continuous with the occiput. Antennæ one-half longer than the head, joint 1 and 2 nearly equal, rounded, longer than wide, 3—8 very transverse, equal, narrower than the second, 9 one-third wider, 10 twice as long and wide than the ninth, the last joint ovate, truncate at the base, one-third longer than wide, slightly wider than the tenth, pubescence denser at the tip. Palpi short, yellow. Prothorax very broadly convex, nearly plane, punctulate, sides evenly rounded with the basal angles broadly arcuate, as long as the width of the head, the prominent eyes included, and less than one-fourth wider; disk nearly flat in the middle, an oblong fovea before the middle and large lateral foveæ just behind the middle connected by a fine, straight sulcus, running through a very small median fovea. Elytra one-half longer, across the high shoulders slightly wider, across the tip one-fourth wider than the prothorax, sides behind the middle nearly parallel; disk flat, depressed with declivous sides and tip, very densely pubescent, discal lines two-thirds long, very sharp and fine, the sutural line the same and entire, three basal punctures. Abdomen

with the first and second dorsal bicarinate in the middle, carinae including one-fourth of the segmental width. Legs short, yellow. ♂ with the last ventral nearly circular and an inconspicuous transverse impression at the base of the penultimate segment.

Linn County, Iowa.

Very distinct by the small head and the form and sculpture of the prothorax.

Euplectus? nova species? or variety of *Euplectus? armatus*.

This is a singular superscription full of doubt.

The specimens before me seem to be a variety of *Euplectus armatus* Lec. differing from the latter in the sculpture of the vertex, which has the foveae in one specimen not connected by a sulcus with the transverse frontal impression, in the other there is a faint trace visible, most as in *Euplectus integer*, which it resembles in the whole form and convexity. Besides that, both specimens possess other important characters of *Trimium*. They have only two basal punctures on the elytron and the first dorsal and second ventral segment is much longer than its neighbors, which in our *Trimium* is the case only in *convexulum* and the fourth dorsal is not perceptibly longer than the third; not at all like a true *Euplectus*, to which *E. crinitus* belongs. This all points to *Trimium* except the stronger border of the abdomen and the form of the antennal club, which latter is decidedly like *Euplectus*. This questionable form seems to be exceptionally North American of the Atlantic Slope. According to Reitter's schema we would have but one *Trimium* and the rest would be *Trimiopsis*. Sharp is unwilling to accept *Trimiopsis*. Those doubtful *Euplectus* would be *Trimium* except for the antennae. What is to be done?

Constant characters of *Euplectus* are the prolonged fourth dorsal, which in reality is composed of two united segments, and is not connate with the last segment, the form of the antennae and the third basal elytral puncture, together with the depressed general form. Constant characters of *Trimium* are the varying subequal, dorsal and ventral segments, the wanting prolongation of the fourth dorsal, which is connate with the last segment of the antennal club, and the Batrisus-shaped form of the body and two basal elytral punctures. This schema excludes the *E. arcuatus*, *integer* etc. which should be set down as *Pseudotrimium* (*Pseudoplectrus?* Reitter) having the 4th and 5th dorsal connate and six ventrals.

Trimium thoracicum n. sp. Saturated yellow, form slender, pubescence, very fine, abundant. Length, 0.9–0.95 mm.

Head narrower than the prothorax, one-fifth wider than long, genae convergent, eyes not prominent, base impressed in the middle, frontal margin straight, a little more than half as wide as the width across the eyes, the foveae in a line through the middle of the eye, mutually less than twice distant as either from the eye, circumambient sulcus distinct, shallow, antennal tubercles small. Antennae one-half longer

than the head, the two basal joints not as strong as in *T. parvulum*, 8-10 equal in length, each twice as wide as the preceding one, the last one-fourth longer than its width and twice as wide as the tenth, ovate. The last palpal joint in the outline securiform, but not compressed. Prothorax as long as wide, seemingly longer, equal to one and one-half the length of the head, widest before the middle, sides evenly arcuate, not perceptibly sinuate near the rather small lateral foveæ which are connected with the medial basal small fovea by a straight sulcus one-fourth the length of the prothorax from the base; disk evenly convex, finely and densely punctured. Elytra across the rounded shoulders as wide as the prothorax, before the tip one-third wider and the suture one-fourth longer; disk convex, base with two arcuate impressions leaving between them a broad longitudinal ridge, which in proper light may be traced to one-third of the elytral length. Abdomen with the first not longer than the second, very convex with two very short basal carinæ. Legs moderate, the intermediate thighs lunate, convex anteriorly and nearly straight posteriorly, compressed. The abundant pubescence makes the surface appear lustreless.

Iowa.—On moist rotten wood with ants. Abundant in the time of copulation in June. Differs from *T. puncticolle* by the impression on the occiput and the presence of abdominal carinæ.

Articerus californicus n. sp.

In size and color like *Articerus fuchsii* from Tennessee, but is more slender in form, the head in proportion shorter, the antennæ darker and slightly arcuate, the outlines of the tube-shaped last joint concave, which are in *fuchsii* straight lines, the antennal cavities sharper, limited before the eyes and the root of the basal segment less exposed. Otherwise in every respect like the well-known *A. fuchsii*.

Los Angeles, California.

Note on *Hæmatobia serrata* R. Desv.

By S. W. WILLISTON.

I have just learned, through the kindness of Professor Lintner, that the *Hæmatobia cornicola*, described by me in the September number of *Entom. Americana*, had previously been identified through Baron Osten Sacken with *H. serrata* R. Desvoidy, from France and Italy. I very much regret the synonym, which only adds another proof that he who treads on unfamiliar ground finds plenty of pitfalls. Suspecting, as I did, the identity of the two forms, I should have sent specimens for comparison. My only plea is that the multiplicity of my duties compels me to give up further study of our Diptera, for the time, at least. I leave them with the less reluctance, knowing that Mr. Coquillet and Mr. W. M. Wheeler are engaged upon them. Mr. Wheeler writes me that he is making an especial study of the Leptidæ, and I know he will be thankful for material.*

* We shall have some remarks on this note in a future number.